

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 614

By Casada

A RESOLUTION recognizing Bud's Longview Farm, a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor and recognize those exceptional farming families who, through their dedication to the ancient and esteemed traditions of agriculture, have made significant contributions to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, the Anderson and Bond families of Williamson County certainly rank among those estimable Tennessee farming families; Bud's Longview Farm, owned and operated by the family since 1900, has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm in recognition of its long and illustrious history; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Century Farms Program recognizes those families who have owned and farmed the same land for over a century, and also documents and interprets the State's history and culture of farming; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 1900, Walter Anderson attended an auction at the Williamson County Courthouse, where he was the "highest & best bidder" on a sixty-acre farm along the Franklin and Lewisburg Pike; and

WHEREAS, this land had been part of the estate of his father, Thomas P. Anderson, and was where his brother, J. W. Anderson, had built a two-story frame farm house atop a hill 800 feet above sea level in 1878; Walter and his family then moved to the farm and took over its operations; and

WHEREAS, Walter married Elizabeth "Bettie" J. Bond in 1894, and the couple had eight children, six of whom survived to adulthood: Bess, Walter, Jr., "Bud," James, Mary Francis, Brownie, and Tommie; and

WHEREAS, the Anderson family grew hay, tobacco, grains, and alfalfa, while also raising hogs and Jersey dairy cows; Walter was fond of horses and always kept a saddle mare available to ride around the farm; and

WHEREAS, from their home atop the hill, the Andersons had views of the entire area, including the WSM tower over ten miles away south of Brentwood, and thus they appropriately named their farm “Longview”; and

WHEREAS, in 1940, Walter Anderson, Sr. was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives, and the old farmhouse was equipped with electricity; and

WHEREAS, in addition to cultivating his land for forty years, Walter served on the school board and as a road commissioner and was an elder in the New Hope Presbyterian Church, where he taught Bible Class; and

WHEREAS, in 1958, Walter died and left the farm to his children, Bess and Bud, both of whom were unmarried; Bess and Bud had helped their parents run the farm since 1940, and they continued to grow hay, tobacco, and corn, while raising hogs, dairy and beef cows, and walking horses; and

WHEREAS, when Bess died in 1965, Bud inherited her portion of the farm, and upon Bud’s death in 1992, his surviving siblings and their families inherited the farm and put it up for sale by auction; and

WHEREAS, at the auction, their cousin, Dan Bond, who is also associated with the Bond Century Farm in Williamson County, and his family purchased about sixty acres of the farm; and

WHEREAS, Dan Bond, Bettie Bond Anderson’s great-nephew, now owns 41 acres of the original farm, and he his wife, Phyllis, live and work on the farm, raising beef cattle and growing hay; and

WHEREAS, both Mr. and Mrs. Bond have been active in 4-H since their youth and now volunteer and serve on boards and committees for the Williamson County Fair, Tennessee Agricultural Museum, Williamson County Farm Service Committee, Williamson County DHIA Board, and Williamson County Livestock Association; and

WHEREAS, like their parents, Danny Pugh (Phyllis' son) and Megan Bond Cragar were also involved in 4-H as children and are now engaged in several agriculture-related programs in the region and state; and

WHEREAS, Bud's Longview Farm, named to honor the late Bud Anderson and the farm's history, is the thirty-eighth Tennessee Century Farm certified in Williamson County; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as the members of the Anderson and Bond families, who have demonstrated a deep respect for tradition and hard work and a love for the land; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate owners Dan and Phyllis Bond, whose Bud's Longview Farm has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm, commend Mr. and Mrs. Bond and their family for their dedication to agriculture, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.